Guidelines for Meeting Requirements for Highly Qualified Paraprofessionals

STEPS	NEW PARA High School Graduate	NEW PARA 2 Years of College AA Degree	EXISTING PARAS
Interview	Interview of candidate based on Paraprofessional Standards and Guidelines: Knowledge of reading, writing, math Ability to work as part of a team Ability to maintain a supportive environment in classroom Planning and organizing skills Ability to assist the teacher in delivering instruction Ability to administer assessments Understanding of ethical conduct		
Assessment that meets NCLB requirements	Complete assessment of district choice that meets NCLB Requirements		Complete assessment of district choice that meets NCLB Requirements
Orientation	Para is referred to OPI/CSPD website or to similar orientation offered by district.		
Needs Assessment	Assess skills & needs for further training		
Create Professional Development Plan	Create a professional development plan in conjunction with the administrator to ensure high quality status.		
Provide Training	Provide professional development opportunities to ensure skill development. (Resources: MEA/MFT PASS Training, CSPD,TOPA Academies, MSU Billings, U of M Western, Miles College, Para Websites, Other)		
Portfolio	Maintain a portfolio to demonstrate evidence of ongoing professional development which may include: • Letters of recommendation • Documentation of relevant training • Evaluations showing ability to assist in the delivery of reading, writing and math • Resume' • Other relevant material		